

## Facilitator Notes – Zuko Explains: Word of Faith (WoF)

Purpose: These notes are to help you lead a gentle, Bible-centred Self-Discovery Bible Study (SOS) on the Word of Faith movement. They assume participants may already love Jesus and may have positive experiences in WoF or similar churches. Keep the tone kind, curious, and anchored in Scripture.

### 1. Opening & Preamble

Read aloud or summarise the preamble from the student handout.

- Ask:
- “What have you heard about the Word of Faith movement? What attracts people to it?”
- “Can you think of times when you or people you know have longed for healing, miracles or breakthrough?”

### 2. What WoF Teaches

Invite the group to scan Section 1 of the handout.

- Ask:
- “Which of these teachings have you personally heard or seen?”
- “Which ideas sound close to Scripture, and which raise questions for you?”
- SOS Bible Study suggestion:
- Read 2 Corinthians 4:7–18 together. Ask: “What does this passage say about suffering, weakness and God’s power?”

### 3. Jesus and the Holy Spirit in WoF Teaching

Have the group read Sections 2 and 3 (a–c).

- SOS passages:
- Philippians 2:5–11 – What does this actually say about Jesus “emptying Himself”?
- Colossians 2:9 and Hebrews 1:1–3 – What do these say about Jesus’ divinity?
- John 14:16–17; John 16:13–14 – What do these say about the Holy Spirit as a Person?
- Ask:
- “How do these passages correct some of the ideas we listed from WoF teaching?”
- “What difference does it make if the Holy Spirit is a Person, not just a power we turn on and off?”

### 4. Tongues, “Higher Levels” and Baptism in the Spirit

Read Section 3b–3c together.

- SOS passages:
- 1 Corinthians 12:4–11, 27–31 – What do you notice about gifts and variety?
- Ephesians 6:10–18 – What might “pray in the Spirit on all occasions” mean in context?

- Acts 2:37–39 – When do people receive the Holy Spirit here?
- Ask:
- “Have you ever felt like a ‘second-class’ Christian because of gifts you do or don’t have?”
- “According to these passages, what truly shows the Spirit’s work in a believer’s life?”

## 5. Generational Curses, Possession and “Deliverance”

Read Section 3d slowly.

- SOS passages:
- Ezekiel 18:1–4, 19–20 – Who is responsible for sin?
- Colossians 1:13–14; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:13–14 – What changes when someone is in Christ?
- Luke 11:14–22 – Who is the “stronger man” and what does He do?
- Ask:
- “According to these passages, who owns a believer – Jesus or the devil?”
- “How does this affect the way we think about curses and possession in Christians?”

Gently discuss the paragraph on why “deliverance” sometimes seems to work. Emphasise that God honours honesty, repentance and courage, and that good pastoral care can help people grow even when the theology around them is confused.

## 6. Works-Righteousness and “By His Stripes”

Read Section 4 together, including the “By His Stripes” explanation.

- SOS passages:
- Isaiah 53:4–6 – List all the words related to sin and peace with God.
- 1 Peter 2:21–25 – What kind of “healing” is Peter talking about in context?
- Romans 5:1–5; James 1:2–4; 2 Corinthians 12:7–10 – How do these passages speak about suffering and growth?
- Ask:
- “How have you seen Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24 used in churches?”
- “What new things did you notice when you read them in context today?”
- “How would you explain to a friend that God can heal, but these verses are mainly about salvation?”

## 7. Control, Manipulation and Testing Everything

Read Sections 5–7 together.

- SOS passages:
- Acts 17:10–12 – Why were the Bereans called “more noble” (or “of more noble character”)?
- 1 John 4:1 – What command is given here about “spirits”?
- 1 Corinthians 14:29 – What should the church do with prophecy?
- Matthew 7:15–20 – How do we recognise true and false prophets?

- Ask:
- “What are some warning signs that spiritual language is being used to shut down questions?”
- “What healthy habits can we build into our church life to keep leadership accountable and teaching biblical?”

## **8. Pastoral Guidance & Next Steps**

Read Section 8 (Pastoral Guidance) aloud.

- Ask:
- “If someone you love is deeply involved in WoF teaching, what would be a kind first step toward conversation?”
- “Which passage from today would you most want to study with them in an SOS Bible study?”

Close in prayer, asking God to guard the group from pride, fear or harshness, and to help everyone grow in love for Jesus, confidence in Scripture, and compassion for those who are confused or hurting.